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## ***Davis Announces Grants to Train 410 Workers at Three Northwest Indiana Companies***

INDIANAPOLIS — Lt. Gov. Kathy Davis today announced more than \$290,000 in training grants for three Northwest Indiana companies through the Indiana Department of Commerce's Skills Enhancement Fund.

"The state of Indiana is helping Hoosier businesses become more competitive in the marketplace," said Davis, who leads the state's economic development efforts as director of Commerce. "These grants give employees immediate access to the latest skills using new and improved equipment. This investment benefits both the business community and our state's workforce."

- **Emerson Power Transmission Manufacturing, L.P.**, Valparaiso, is the recipient of a \$130,000 grant to train 233 incumbent employees following the company's investment of \$4 million to purchase equipment and build a new facility. Emerson Network Power is an Emerson business that provides reliable power solutions for large and small businesses alike, including inbound power, connectivity, power supplies, power systems and precision cooling. These technologies are backed by the largest global services organization in the power industry. Their training will include crane operator training, forklift training and basic quality system training.
- **Unilever HPC NA**, Hammond, is the recipient of a \$145,000 grant to train 149 current employees following the company's investment of \$6 million to purchase equipment. Unilever manages an extensive portfolio of products servicing the needs of 320 million consumers in North America. Their leading brands include household names such as Vaseline skin care and Q-tips cotton swabs. Their training will include production processes, pipefitting, team building, electrical and mechanical training, problem solving and total productive manufacturing.

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- **Flame Resistant Garments Inc.**, Schererville, has been awarded a \$15,250 grant to train 18 existing employees and 10 new employees following the company's \$1.4 million investment in new equipment and a new building. Great Lakes Safety started in 1995 for businesses in need of safety equipment and supplies. Great Lakes Safety sells, rents and repairs safety equipment and supplies that are used in confined space areas. Their training will include forklift training, computer training, process training and machine maintenance.

The Commerce Department awards Skills Enhancement Fund grants to Indiana companies that undertake capital investment projects. The grants help defray the costs of training new and current employees in basic work skills and company-specific skills necessary to support the project. Companies interested in learning more about the Skills Enhancement Fund or other Commerce programs should contact their regional Commerce office at 800.463.8081, or visit the Web site at [www.indianacommerce.com](http://www.indianacommerce.com).

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